

Remarks

Applicant and applicant's undersigned representatives wish to thank Examiner Trinh for the thorough examination of the present application, the detailed explanations in the Office Action dated March 29, 2010, and the indication that the subject matter of claims 41, 44, 46, 51, 53-54, 58-59, 61-65, 100-101, 103-119, 121-125, 128, 136-147, 149-150, 152, 155-165, 204, 206, 231, and 235 is allowable over the prior art. Claim 207 has been canceled along with all claims depending therefrom. Claim 235 has been canceled, the limitations of which have been added to Claim 211. The present claim set includes allowed claims 41, 44, 46, 51, 53-54, 58-59, 61-65, 100-101, 103-119, 121-125, 128, 136-147, 149-150, 152, 155-165, 204, 206, and 231, and Claim 211 (amended to include the limitations of allowable dependent claim 235) and previously presented claims that depend from Claim 211. Thus, the present claims are in condition for allowance, and no new matter or new issues are introduced in the present amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 57, 126-127, 131, 153-154, 169-173, 178-184, 189, 194-197, 207-210, and 232 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 57, 126-127, 131, 153-154, 169-173, 178-184, 189, 194-197, 207-210, and 232 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho et al. (U.S. Patent Appl. Publ. No. 2003/0045632 [hereinafter "Shiho"]) in view of Jacobson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,294,401 [hereinafter "Jacobson"]) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 168 and 205 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 168 and 205 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho and Jacobson, and further in view of Tani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,254,439) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 176-177, 192-193, and 234 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 176-177, 192-193, and 234 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho and Jacobson, and further in view of Korgel (U.S. Patent Appl. Publ. No. 2003/0034486) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 175 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 175 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho and Jacobson, and further in view of Nayfeh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,585,947 [hereinafter “Nayfeh”]) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 199-201 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 199-201 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho and Jacobson, in view of Griffith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,348,295), and further in view of Maloney et al. (U.S. Patent Appl. Publ. No. 2002/0076495) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 226-230 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 226-230 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho and Jacobson, in further view of Kim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,355,198 [hereinafter “Kim”]) and Komyoji (U.S. Patent Appl. Publ. No. 2002/0050061 [hereinafter “Komyoji”]) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 211-213, 217-223, 225, 231, and 233 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 211-213, 217-223, 225, 231, and 233 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho, Jacobson, Kim, and Komyoji has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 215-216 and 235 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 211-213, 217-223, 225, 231, and 233 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho, Jacobson, Kim, and Komyoji, and further in view of Korgel has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claims 214 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claims 214 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho, Jacobson, Kim, and Komyoji, and further in view of Nayfeh has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of Claim 224 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of Claim 224 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of Shiho, Jacobson, Kim, and Komyoji, and in further view of Tani has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

Conclusions

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all bases for rejection are overcome, and the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

Atty. Docket No. KOV-004  
Application No: 10/616,147

If it is deemed helpful or beneficial to the efficient prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

/William K. Nelson/

William K. Nelson  
Reg. No. 63,501

Andrew D. Fortney, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 34,600

215 W. Fallbrook Ave., Suite 203  
Fresno, CA 93711  
Phone: 559-432-6847

ADF:wkn:mah